

Commercial Advertiser

FALMER G. SMITH - EDITOR

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MOSQUITO MEASURES.

The Mosquito Committee has its eye on Waikiki, which is a good thing. That otherwise attractive part of the city has more mosquitoes to the acre than any other portion of Honolulu. The reason is that it keeps so many stagnant ponds, many of which are situated in Kapiolani park.

If the park is not a mosquito-breeder it belies its looks. Murky, moveless water, some of it with a green scum, acts the part of ponds and streams. What is needed there is a continuous supply of fresh water such as might be had from an artesian well, also a general cleaning out and clearing up of the channels. With good water and plenty of gold fish in it there might be no necessity of using petroleum.

The lily pond at the Waikiki Annex seems to be well-supplied with fish although it is a disreputable looking frog-hole now and may possibly, in the shallow parts, where logs, brush and other detritus obstruct even the fish, be the breeding-place of the swarms of mosquitoes that infest the neighborhood. Other lily ponds thereabouts need looking into by the health authorities.

It would be a good thing for Waikiki if its residents would form a neighborhood committee, on the plan of the village improvement societies of the East, and tackle the mosquito question for themselves. They could keep tabs on one another. Mr. Damon could also do a great work on his Moanua estate, which breeds mosquitoes enough to run a New Jersey summer resort. We had hoped that he would, before this, have shown what can be done by a free use of petroleum.

The collection of tin cans about town is a sound proposal, providing they are sent out to sea as garbage and thrown overboard. Once there they will not turn up as water-containers on the Sheridan street dumping ground or in some other place.

Another suggestion: People who keep chickens should see that the water cans provided for them are regularly emptied. Many a poultryman raises five hundred mosquitoes to every chicken.

SHANGHAI.

The thing that is building up Shanghai into the Chicago of the Far East is its partial command of the trade of 127,000,000 of people. The city dominates the entrance of the Yangtze river, the greatest commercial thoroughfare of the empire, a Mississippi as to size and more than a Thames as to activity. Ocean steamers of the deepest draft ascend this river six hundred miles to Hankow, a city which is described as "the mart of eight provinces." Some of Hankow's trade, however, is being diverted to Shanghai by the system of railroads now building. Last year the trade of the Yangtze amounted to \$109,364,175.90 and it is bound to grow as China acquires new wants and opens up to civilization.

The drawbacks to the settlement there of white men are climatic and political. Though Shanghai is a bit north of Hawaii it has the humid climate of New Orleans in whose latitude it lies and is much less comfortable in the summer than is this trade-wind group. Naturally, considering its climate and population, it is scourged at intervals by disease. Being in the typhoon belt the place naturally suffers from the elements.

Politically the city is yet under a quasi-Chinese authority and no one knows what power will control it in a few years to come. England may, in which case all will be well for white men; Russia or Germany may, in which case Russians and Germans will have the preference. Then again whatever power holds the place will have to reckon with nearly 200,000,000 Chinese who, if they acquire the ideals and munitions of civilization may restore themselves to control of their dismembered empire.

In the meantime, however, money is to be made there and the foot-loose classes are flocking that way.

Is this the attitude of the Land Commissioner as described in his native organ, the Independent?

The Advertiser has flared up at the Land Commissioner on account of the conservative manner of that official in dealing with public lands, and alleged settlers and "small farmers" from abroad. The cause of the rumpus seems to be that the Commissioner endeavors to tell the truth about land and farming possibilities, and will not lend himself to the present scheme of fleecing a lot of honest clod-hoppers from the mainland out of their desperately hard-earned savings.

It would be interesting to know if the Land Commissioner really feels that way.

Once a month the Paradise of the Pacific prints about twenty large pages of first rate tourist literature with pictures to match. The August number of this periodical is quite up to the mark. It is full of matter which can be sent East to the advantage of the tourist trade.

THE LOCAL LABOR QUESTION.

There is a vast amount of economic nonsense in the cry that "American citizens" should be employed as contract laborers here by preference to foreigners. Of the kind of American citizens known on the mainland of the United States there are none here who want jobs as laborers or would take them if offered. The cry of protest comes from lately enfranchised Polynesians most of whom cannot speak the tongue that Americans use and who belong mainly to the class described by the late Ross Browne when he said that he never saw but one Hawaiian doing anything and he was falling off a house.

The truth about the native as a manual laborer was publicly told at the last meeting of the Builders and Traders' Exchange—he is not dependable. He cannot be relied upon to do a fair day's work nor to stay by his job until it is finished. Now a contract means that a certain amount of work must be done in a certain space of time. If it isn't so done the contractor loses his pay or forfeits his bond. He cannot take chances with his labor. He must have men who will stand by him until the job is done; and when, as the fruit of bitter experience he turns from the Hawaiian, the latter has no right to blame him. It is not the contractor who keeps the native out of steady work—it is HIMSELF.

We venture to say that the employment of this class of "American citizens" on public works costs the Territory one hundred thousand dollars biennially in labor paid for but not performed—say, rather, in time wasted. This writer has seen many a gang of native road "laborers" on duty and has estimated that they would be dear at forty cents a day. These men do not want to work. They had rather starve than go on the plantations where no political pull would let them take their own time. What they are after is the greatest possible pay for the least possible labor; and that is what they get and give in Territorial employ. Unhappily the Territory cannot help itself, but the private contractor can help himself and naturally does so.

There is a way, nevertheless, for the 1898 issue of "American citizens" to get work anywhere and that is to learn to do what they are paid for as well as foreigners. They might learn through practice on the roads and streets.

THE FILIBUSTER BISHOP.

The threat of Bishop Willis against Tongan sovereignty seems to have been something more than a bluff. At his instance and those of other British residents who do not admire Polynesian rule, a British High Commissioner, Sir Thomas Moore Jackson, has gone to Tonga from Fiji to adjust matters. On the principle that those whom the gods would destroy they first make mad, the Tongan government has refused him a landing on the ground that the measles prevail in Fiji where he came from. All this, of course, plays into the hands of Bishop Willis and his fellow-conspirators against Tongan sovereignty and the next we hear a British cruiser may come to back the Commissioner up and incidentally put an end to the Tongan independence which has aroused Bishop Willis's pious wrath.

Remembering the Bishop's stern fight for native independence here and his horror at American "rapacity" as exhibited in the "cold-blooded scheme of annexation," the Advertiser will watch his proceedings in Tonga with the keenest interest. One can hardly imagine the virtuous old gentleman in the role of a "filibuster" despite his local fame as a disturber of the peace, but there is no telling what may happen in the regions south of the equator where Shakespeare found his anthropophagi. What if a Tongan charge that Willis had come as a carpet-bagger, had tried to wrest land from the natives and failing had undertaken to "steal their country" and been backed in his nefarious "missionary" attempt by another Stevens and another "Boston"—what if such a charge, we say, should put Bishop Willis on the defensive? There would be little left to his old friends here but tears. Can it be that all unconsciously to himself his years of contact with the plundering missionaries of Hawaii has blunted his appreciation of the divine right of the Polynesian to govern wrong?

No malaria in Honolulu.
No sandstorms in Honolulu.
No floods in Honolulu.
No frosts in Honolulu.
No snakes in Honolulu.
No venomous insects in Honolulu.
No big storms in Honolulu.
No sunstrokes in Honolulu.
No earthquake shocks in Honolulu.
No beggars in Honolulu.
No discomfort in Honolulu.
If you know anybody who is looking for such a place in which to spend the winter mark this paragraph and send it to him.

One of the best advertisements Honolulu could get abroad would be the story, told in newspapers and magazines, of how it had abolished the mosquito.

The International yacht races were expected, at last accounts, to begin today. There is a very general feeling

that Sir Thomas Lipton ought to win the cup and there will be little regret if he does. He is a sportsman worthy of any one's admiration. As for the trophy fifty years is long enough to hold it and if it now goes to the other side the attempt to get it back will add zest to races which, from their sameness, have become tiresome.

Let us hope when Theresa gets into the pawnbroking business she will not let her clerk burn the vouchers.

THE NEW JUDGE TAKES HIS SEAT

Alexander Lindsay Jr., the new second judge of the police court, held his first session yesterday morning and disposed of quite a lot of business.

Louisa Testa was allowed to go under suspension of a six months' sentence. She thought she was being sent to jail by the new judge and began weeping bitter tears, but was comforted when told the truth.

Mori, a Japanese pleaded guilty to having been intoxicated and Judge Lindsay fixed his standard for drunks at three dollars and costs.

Gomero, a Porto Rican, was sent to jail for three months on a charge of vagrancy and De Ruan, his partner in crime, was given a month's imprisonment.

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James Brady, the well known bridge builder of New York, is an inveterate theater-goer and is especially fond of patronizing roof gardens and similar summer entertainments. Also he has an extraordinary passion for diamonds, in displaying which he has many startling ideas. In addition to a full assortment for fingers, shirt, cuffs and less exposed articles of apparel he carries a beautiful stone in the handle of his umbrella, another in the ferrule of his cane and several finer than all on the handle-bars of his bicycle. To this fact he owes his nickname of "Diamond Jim" Brady.



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Sunday Advertiser
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10c. Wire Soap Dishes, only 5c.
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15c. Wire Cake Coolers, now 10c.
Japanned Candlesticks, only... 5c.
15c. Egg Poachers, reduced to 10c.
Wire Potato Mashers now only 10c.
Perforated Ladles, heavy tin 5c.
Bread Toasters, a bargain... 5c.
Wire spout Tea strainers... 5c.
Nickle plated Tea Strainers... 10c.
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Wire Soap Shakers, very useful 5c.
Table Spoons, A1 quality, Doz. 40c.
Tea Spoons, special sale price... Doz. 25c.
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